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TEMPLE TALK

Congregation L'Dor V'Dor
Oakland Little Neck Jewish Center

OLNJC.org September 2018 Vol. 15., Issue 1



L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu!



May the New Year bring the blessings of good health, happiness and peace.



A Special Evening!

Join us

For Erev Shabbat Services
Friday, September 7
At 8:00 p.m.

As we celebrate the
Installation of our
New Officers and Trustees
&

Say, "Thank You" to
Steve Aronowitz
For his dedication as
President of our congregation
for 11 years

RSVPs are required by
Tuesday, September 4.

Voluntary donations may be made
to the Kiddush Fund.

The High Holiday Season Begins! Saturday, September 1

Havdalah	8:00 pm
Casablanca	8:15 pm
Selichot Services	10:30 pm
Late Night Snack	11:30 pm

Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman still have much to teach us about Apologies, Forgiveness and Doing the Right Thing.



*See pages 7-9 for:
Greetings from Members of your L'Dor V'Dor family
Schedule of High Holiday Services
Other High Holiday News*

From The Rabbi

As I began to prepare for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, I came across the following parable, written by Elie Wiesel:



A man complained to G-d:

“You have no idea how hard it is to be human — to live a life darkened by suffering and despair in a world filled with violence and destruction, to fear death and worry that nothing we do or create or dream matters. You have no idea how hard it is to be human!”

G-d responded:

“You think it’s easy being G-d? I have a whole universe to run, a whole universe demanding constant vigilance. You think you could do that?”

Suggested the man:

“I’ll tell you what,” “let’s switch places, for just a moment. For just a moment, You be Man, and I’ll be G-d, and that way we’ll see who has it harder.”

G-d considered:

“For just a moment?... Agreed.”

So Man and G-d switched places. Man sat upon G-d’s throne. And G-d descended to the earth. After a moment passed, G-d looked up and said, “OK, time to switch back.” But Man refused. Man refused to give up the throne of G-d.

This is our world.

Man plays G-d, and G-d is exiled!

Every day during the month before Rosh Hashanah it is customary to recite Psalm 27. This enables us to articulate the following prayer:

There is one thing that I ask of G-d,
And this is what I ask:
May I dwell within the house of G-d
All the days of my life!

If we suggest that “G-d’s House” is no less than the entire world in which we live, then one way to interpret this prayer is that it is a request for the world to indeed be G-d’s house. And, the only way for this to be true is for us, as stewards of the world, to let G-d into G-d’s own house. Yes, as human beings we have the power and the responsibility to let G-d into this world. All too often it appears, as articulated so beautifully in the parable by Elie Wiesel, that G-d is living in exile and that we have shut G-d out.

For me, G-d is the source of all blessings and the force that motivates us to be good and to promote justice, compassion, understanding, love and peace throughout the world. To live in G-d’s house, is to live in a world where G-d is sovereign and the Divine rules that G-d has given us govern our lives and the lives of all who live in this world.

On Rosh Hashanah we celebrate the creation of the world and the establishment of G-d’s sovereignty within it. My prayer, for the New Year that is upon us, is that each of us do what we can to let G-d into this world, to get out of G-d’s seat, give up the notion that we are G-d and live our lives with the understanding that there is a power that is greater than we are, to which we must listen and do our best to live in harmony with G-d’s plan for goodness in the world.

L’Shanah Tovah Tikateivu!

Rabbi Gordon Naffe



Shabbat Candle Lighting

September 7 7:00 p.m.

September 14 6:48 p.m.

September 21 6:36 p.m.

September 28 6:25 p.m.



September Schedule of Services

Sunday Morning Minyan each week @ 8:45 a.m.

From September Through April

Friday Night Services will begin at 6:30 p.m. except for the Monthly Shabbat Evening Service celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries and September 7 that begin at 8:00 p.m.

Sat., Sept. 1	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 a.m.
	Havdalah	8:00 p.m.
	Casa Blanca	8:15 p.m.
	Selichot Services	10:30 p.m.
	Late Night Snack	11:30 p.m.
Fri., Sept. 7	Erev Shabbat Service	8:00 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 8	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 a.m.
	High Holiday Workshop	12:30 p.m.
Sun., Sept. 9	Erev Rosh Hashanah—Mincha/Maariv	6:15 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 10	Rosh Hashanah Day 1—Shacharit	8:30 a.m.
	Tashlich	5:00 p.m.
	Mincha/Maariv	6:30 p.m.
Tues., Sept. 11	Rosh Hashanah Day 2—Shacharit	8:30 a.m.
Fri., Sept. 14	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 15	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 a.m.
	Kabbalah Circle	12:30 p.m.
Tues., Sept. 18	Erev Yom Kippur—Mincha	6:15 p.m.
	Kol Nidre	6:30 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 19	Yom Kippur	
	Shacharit	8:30 a.m.
	Yizkor	1:30 p.m.
	Mincha	5:00 p.m.
	Neilah	6:30 p.m.
	Final Shofar	7:40 p.m.
Fri., Sept. 21	Shabbat Evening Service	8:00 p.m.
	Birthdays and Anniversaries Celebrated	
Sat., Sept. 22	Shabbat Morning Experience	
	Breakfast	9:00 a.m.
	Shacharit	10:00 a.m.
	Torah Service	10:30 a.m.
	Musaph	11:15 a.m.
	Kiddush/Lunch	12:00 p.m.
Sun., Sept. 23	Erev Sukkot—Maariv	6:00 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 24	Sukkot Day 1—Shacharit	9:30 a.m.
	Mincha/Maariv	6:30 p.m.
Tues., Sept. 25	Sukkot Day 2 Shacharit	9:30 a.m.
Fri., Sept. 28	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 29	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 a.m.
Sun., Sept. 30	Erev Shemini Atzeret—Maariv	7:30 p.m.
	Yizkor	8:00 p.m.
Mon., Oct. 1	Shemini Atzeret—Shacharit	9:30 a.m.
	Erev Simchat Torah	7:00 p.m.
Tues., Oct. 2	Simchat Torah	9:30 a.m.

Presidential Matters

By Marjorie Goldstein



As I embark upon a new leadership role, as Co-President of Congregation L'Dor V'Dor, I am taking time to reflect upon the events of the past several months as well as the importance of our Synagogue in my life as I prepare for the High Holidays.

As many of you know, my husband, Lenny Goldstein, died on May 21, 2018, 9 days after he officiated at our daughter's wedding, when Hillary married Alex Dimin. It was a spectacular event which will always be remembered. For those of you who didn't know Lenny, he was an active, vibrant member of our Synagogue, as well as a loving husband who was my best friend, father of our children, father-in-law to 2 new sons, grandfather, brother, brother-in-law, son-in-law, great friend to many and someone who dealt full force with major obstacles and was able to live a very fulfilling life. He was an inspiration and a source of strength to many.

I want to thank our Temple Family again for your outpouring of love and support as a result of Lenny's untimely death. The support that I received from Rabbi Yaffe, Cantor Shron, Rabbi Eckstein, Audi, Mitchell Stein, lay leaders, members and close friends within the Congregation has helped immensely in enabling me to better deal with this tragic loss.

Having thought of the responsibilities of Co-President for the last year, I was not ready to take on this position last year. I now feel motivated, confident, and optimistic that under Mitchell's and my leadership, Congregation L'Dor V'Dor will continue to thrive spiritually, educationally and socially.

When you look at the monthly calendar we have so many programs to offer where your participation is needed. We can't have a thriving Synagogue unless you get involved. I want to thank one of our congregants, Myra Sutin, who is donating her baby grand piano to our Synagogue. Imagine having concerts here, cocktail parties with music, sing-alongs and a myriad of other activities. That's certainly special!

We look forward to meeting and greeting you during the High Holidays as well as participating with you in events. Take advantage of everything our Synagogue has to offer. We need your feedback! If we communicate with one another, listen to new ideas and suggestions, we will continue to make positive changes. Take a risk, join a committee or talk to us about forming a new committee.

Please join us on Friday evening, September 7th at 8:00 pm when the new officers from Congregation L'Dor V'Dor will be installed. Please come to honor these individuals who are instrumental in providing leadership to our Congregation, as well as Steve Aronowitz, who will be honored, having devoted 11 years as President of our Synagogue.

On behalf of my family; Melissa and Cornell Daia, Hillary and Alex Dimin and David Goldstein - and my Co-President, Mitchell Stein and his wife Diane and their children, Matthew and Lisa - and the members of the Board: May the New Year bring the blessings of good health, happiness and peace to you and your families.

**We are Grateful to Myra Sutin
For her generous donation of
a Baby Grand Piano.**



**We are looking forward to many opportunities to
hear beautiful music within our synagogue.**

From Your Co-Vice President of Membership

By Karen Popowsky



Membership Monthly: We are 70!

Welcome back! What did you do on your summer vacation? You so look rested! How are the kids? How are the grandchildren? See any good movies? What's YOUR news?

OUR news is that Congregation L'Dor V'Dor is celebrating its 70th Anniversary! Little Neck Jewish Center and Oakland Jewish Center were each founded 70 years ago and that is certainly a milestone worthy of celebration which we will do on October 13 at our annual Membership Shabbat service. It has become customary to welcome our new members and honor all our members at this special service. In order to document this auspicious occasion properly, we are gathering some biographical information about our consolidated synagogue and we need your assistance. How long have you and your family been members of our congregation? Were you a founding member of either Little Neck Jewish Center or Oakland Jewish Center? What are your memories of becoming a member of these two wonderful synagogues that became one vibrant and special place of worship? Your Membership Committee would like to hear from you about those memories, the lifelong friendships you made, the simchas you celebrated at these synagogues. Pictures are worth a thousand words and we welcome those too. We look forward to hearing about your special, unique connection to our special, unique house of worship.

There will be more news from your Membership Committee in the coming weeks. On behalf of all the members of our committee, we would like to extend greetings for a Healthy, Happy and Peaceful 5779.

L'Shanah Tovah!

Save The Date!

Saturday, October 13

**Congregation L'Dor V'Dor
Celebrates Our 70th Anniversary
&
Welcomes Our New Members**

**A Special Shabbat Morning Service
Followed By A Festive Kiddush**

Message from Cantor Shron



No matter how old you are, no matter where you live, September is a time of new beginnings. Perhaps your children or grandchildren are entering college. Perhaps you are going back to school to learn a new skill. Perhaps you are a teacher, excited for the year ahead. Perhaps you're a synagogue member, excited to participate in an action-packed new year of programming, learning, and growth.

After a long, relaxing summer vacation, it's time to begin anew.

I write to you on the morning of August 21st, way past my *Temple Talk* deadline (as usual). Yesterday, Mairov and I brought our eldest son Simcha to the airport, sending him off for a year of study, exploration and fun in the land of Israel. It was, as you could imagine, a bittersweet moment – filled with tears of sadness and tears of joy. We are thrilled to see him spread his wings and explore our beloved homeland, proudly watching him grow and mature before our very eyes. At the same time, we recognize that our family, as we know it, will never quite be the same, and we will have to get used to a reality in which our son is not a constant presence in our home.

Hours after our final hugs and tears (though it doesn't appear as if Mairov will stop crying anytime soon), we received an email from our son. With a few hours to kill, Simcha purchased in-flight wi-fi and decided to write us a very long letter. It was, without exaggeration, the most beautiful letter I've ever read. Simcha, typically not the most emotional kid, took the opportunity to thank us for the past 18 years of life. He told us how much he appreciates all we've done as parents, and how much he'll miss all of the little things that he's always taken for granted. I wish I could properly convey the emotions I felt while reading his incredible sentiments, but let's just say it was a major tear-jerker, and literally took my breath away.

Over the past few weeks, we planned, we packed, we shopped, we anticipated, we worried, we cried...and then the most wonderful, unexpected surprise fell in our laps and – I think it's safe to say – completely changed the relationship between parents and child in the most incredible way possible.

It's interesting how Rosh Hashanah always falls out this time of year. How fitting it is that, in a time of new beginnings for many of us, we are encouraged to examine our deeds, goals, and relationships for the upcoming year. We do not, however, wait for the last minute to begin this evaluation of our lives. We begin 30 days before, as we sound the shofar every day in the month leading up to Rosh Hashanah. It is a wake-up call to remind us of the approaching new year, and of our responsibility to examine our lives beforehand.

You see, we cannot just show up at the synagogue on the High Holidays, sing a few songs and think some positive thoughts, and expect the new year to produce the kinds of results for which we hope and pray. As Benjamin Franklin said, "if you fail to plan, you are planning to fail." We need to take the time beforehand to identify and understand our hopes and dreams for the year ahead, and devise a plan to put them into action. And then, when the holidays do arrive, we can spend our time in the synagogue thinking of how we've planned to grow and succeed throughout 5779.

Once we've done all that, once we've taken the time to do our homework and map out our goals – then we can put them into action and wait for the magic to happen. Just maybe, something completely unexpected and amazing will come our way and help us understand that it was all worth it.

That's the lesson I learned last night.

On behalf of my wife Mairov and our kids, Simcha (sniff...), Ellie, Sela, AJ and Tobey (who always love to see their names in print), I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful, sweet, healthy, and music-filled New Year. I can't wait to sing with you, to pray with you, to dream with you, and hopefully, to grow with you throughout our time together during the High Holy Day season and beyond.

Shana Tova!

Cantor Josh Shron



HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Peter Reinharz | 18 Gordon Charlop |
| 2 Irina Garber | 18 Deborah Schneider |
| 2 Helene Schoenholt | 18 Donald Schoenholt |
| 4 Jeffrey Bass | 18 Jan Tomasik |
| 6 Jeffrey Wirtheim | 19 Nahum Shar |
| 7 Hilda Drapacz | 20 Randi Alwadish |
| 7 Mark Hoffer | 21 Shahar Tamari |
| 7 Lance Litvin | 22 Linda Blank |
| 8 Jared Hodes | 22 Leonid Garber |
| 8 Ryan Hodes | 23 Hope Altheim |
| 9 Eric Fried | 26 Michael Feld |
| 9 Matt Makover | 28 Rachel Altheim |
| 10 Hayim Biton | 28 Martin Jahre |
| 11 Jeffrey Cole | 28 Jessica Levy |
| 12 Adam Lusthaus | 29 George Klein |
| 13 Allan Bressler | 30 Laura Junger |
| 13 Samuel Menchell | 30 Lauren Levine |
| 14 Toby Wolecki | 30 Judy Moy |
| 17 Marilyn Aronson | 30 Richard Rosenfeld |
| 17 Mindy Rosenfeld | |



HAPPY SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- | |
|---------------------------------|
| 2 Joan and Ira Levine |
| 3 Claudia and Mark Hochman |
| 6 Phyllis and Jacob Grijnsztein |
| 6 Cindy and Donald Tanenbaum |
| 13 Judy Moy and Brad Herman |
| 17 Karen and Leon Hodes |
| 25 Robin and Andrew Sherman |
| 26 Adele and George Wolecki |



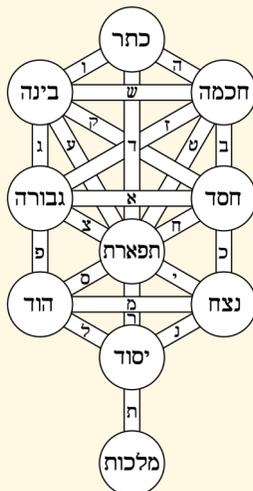
**Celebrate
Your September
Birthday or Anniversary
by receiving a special blessing
at Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, September 21
8:00 p.m.**

Shabbat Morning Experience Saturday, September 22nd

- 9:00 a.m. Breakfast & Learning
10:00 a.m. Shacharit
w/Heicha Kedushah
10:30 a.m. Torah Service
11:15 a.m. Musaph
12:00 p.m. Kiddush & Lunch



Monthly Kabbalah Circle Saturday, September 15 12:30 p.m. After Shabbat Kiddush



Kabbalah is the ancient mystical wisdom of the Jewish people and has long been shrouded in secrecy. However, in our day, more and more people are studying Kabbalah.

Join us as we explore the wisdom of our mystical tradition together with Paul Sacker, Henry Riger and Ellen Charlop as our leaders.



- רביעי ישראלי

Revi'i Yisraeli

Israeli Wednesdays at L'Dor V'Dor



"Srugim"

Get connected to Israel and its culture through hit Israeli TV shows! In this class, we'll binge-watch - and discuss - some of the hottest shows coming out of the Holy Land, beginning with "Srugim". Popcorn included! All shows offer English subtitles.

Wednesdays from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm 9/5, and 9/12

Torah and Our Lives

With

Rabbi Yaffe



11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Wednesdays,
September 5, 12 & 26th

Conversational Hebrew

With

Cantor Joshua Shron



Wednesdays, September 5 and 12

at 8:30 p.m.

Tachles

A Unique Approach
to the Study of Hebrew

Tachles is an informal Hebrew learning program that offers participants a "taste of Hebrew" in a refreshing and interactive style.



פרשת

השבוע

The Weekly
Torah Portion



AlephBeta
ACADEMY

New Afternoon Class - Beginning 9/26!

The book that started it all. Full of wisdom, insight, wonder and mystery...as relevant today as it's been for thousands of years. Ready to study the weekly *parsha* like never before - and make Torah come alive? Join Cantor Shron each week for engaging videos from the Aleph-Beta Academy, and enjoy fascinating insights, lively discussions and good company. You'll come away with a new appreciation for the nuances of our most sacred of texts!

Join us Wednesdays at 3 pm -
at the synagogue, or online!

For details, email jshron@comcast.net

Sisterhood Book Club



**Thursday, October 25
at Elane Berk's Home
at 7:30 p.m.**

The next book club meeting will be on Thursday, October 25th at 7:30 PM at the home of our esteemed hostess, Elane Berk. We will be discussing "The President Is Missing", written by Bill Clinton and James Patterson. *The President Is Missing* confronts a threat so huge that it jeopardizes not just Pennsylvania Avenue and Wall Street, but all of America. Uncertainty and fear grip the nation. There are whispers of cyber terror and espionage and a traitor in the Cabinet. Even the President himself becomes a suspect, and then he disappears from public view. Join us for this enlightening discussion.

**The next Book Club meeting will be on
Thursday, December 13, 2018**

The book that will be discussed on this date is: "**An Improbable Friendship: The Remarkable Lives of Israeli, Ruth Dayan, and Palestinian, Raymonda Tawil, and Their Forty-Year Peace Mission**" by Arthur David.

An Improbable Friendship is the dual biography of Israeli, Ruth Dayan, now ninety-eight, who was Moshe Dayan's wife for thirty-seven years, and Palestinian journalist, Raymonda Tawil, Yasser Arafat's mother-in-law, now seventy-four. It reveals for the first time the two women's surprising and secret forty-year friendship and delivers the story of their extraordinary and turbulent lives growing up in a war-torn country.

Based on personal interviews, diaries, and journals drawn from both women (Ruth lives today in Tel Aviv, Raymonda in Malta) author, Anthony David, delivers a fast-paced, fascinating narrative that is a beautiful story of reconciliation and hope in a climate of endless conflict. By experiencing their stories and following their budding relationship, which began after the Six-Day War in 1967, we learn the behind-the-scenes, undisclosed history of the Middle East's most influential leaders from two prominent women on either side of the ongoing conflict.

An award-winning biographer and historian, Anthony David brings us the story of unexpected friendship while he discovers the true pasts of two outstanding women. Their story gives voice to Israelis and Palestinians caught in the Middle East conflict and holds a persistent faith in a future of peace.

Join us for this enlightening discussion. Looking forward to seeing you.

Any questions contact Harriet Spilkevitz
at 516-708-9404

A Gathering of Concerned Citizens



**PEOPLE OF FAITH RALLY
FOR COMPASSION AND JUSTICE**

**Wednesday, Sept. 26
from 7pm-9pm**

**At the Samuel Field Y
58-20 Little Neck Parkway**

Issues of Concern

- Immigration Reform
- Promoting Tolerance & Fairness in Policing
- Gun Violence
- Environmental Policies



**Come & Hear
Qualified Activists**

Planned speakers include local clergy and guest speakers from organizations concerned about these issues.

**Are you registered to vote in the
November 6th mid-term elections?**



Volunteers will be available
to help you register

**For more information please email us at:
WeCareNassauAndQueens@gmail.com.**

**This program is being sponsored by the Interfaith Action
Committee of Eastern Queens and Western Nassau County in
Cooperation with the Flushing Interfaith Council.**

High Holidays 5779



A High Holiday Workshop With Rabbi Yaffe & Cantor Shron Saturday, September 8th 12:30 p.m.

What happens when the prayers on the page do not represent the thoughts in our minds or the feelings in our hearts?

Join us as we will grapple with this and other obstacles to having a meaningful prayer experience on the holidays.

A Guide for Meaningful Participation In High Holiday Services

Prepare For Your High Holiday Experience

Take as much time to spiritually prepare yourself to enter the sanctuary as you do to physically prepare yourself. The person that you are on the inside should be as well put together as the person you are on the outside. Rosh Hashanah is considered to be the Day of Judgment. The day on which we present ourselves before God to plead our case for being inscribed in the Book of Life for a year of good health and other blessings. On Yom Kippur the verdict is sealed and the case is closed. In the days prior to Rosh Hashanah take some time to reflect upon who you are and the choices that you have made in the year that has gone by. Make amends with those whom you may have mistreated and resolve to make changes in your life if changes are warranted. Be ready to come before the Sovereign of the universe, standing tall with confidence, pride and humility.

Be a Participant, Not a Spectator

When you arrive for services, strive to be ready with a sense of awe to stand before God with prayers in your heart and on your lips. As a member of the congregation you are not a spectator at a service that is being conducted on the bimah, you are a valuable participant without whom the service cannot take place. When it is appropriate, sing along with the cantor and the congregation. At other times, read the English and contemplate the meaning of the prayer. At other times allow your soul to be moved by the melodies and envelop yourself in silent meditation. These are all different ways of actively participating in the service.

Know Before Whom You Stand

The primary goal of being in the sanctuary is to communicate with God, not with our neighbors. Talking should be reserved for outside of the sanctuary. Chewing gum while participating in services is inappropriate. Although it is customary for people to leave the sanctuary during services, remember not to leave when the ark is open, when the congregation is standing, when the rabbi is giving his sermon or when the cantor is offering the Hin'ni.

*With best wishes for a spiritually uplifting
High Holiday experience and a happy and
healthy New Year.*

Schedule of High Holiday Services

Sun., Sept. 9	<u>Erev Rosh Hashanah</u> Maariv	8:15 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 10	<u>Rosh Hashanah Day 1</u> Shacharit Shofar Sermon Teen Discussion Tashlich Mincha/Maariv	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Tues., Sept. 11	<u>Rosh Hashanah Day 2</u> Shacharit Shofar Sermon Teen Discussion	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Tues., Sept. 18	<u>Erev Yom Kippur</u> Mincha Kol Nidre	6:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 19	<u>Yom Kippur</u> Shacharit Teen Discussion Sermon Yizkor Afternoon Break Ask The Rabbi Mincha Neilah Final Shofar	8:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 1:15 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:40 p.m.



Tashlich

Monday, September 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Meet at the entrance of the Daniel Jay Berg
Memorial Park on Clent Road in Russell Gardens.

Junior Congregation Request Form

If there is enough interest, we will conduct Junior Congregation Services for the High Holidays.

Please fill out the form below and send it to the synagogue office by Friday, September 7. We would be delighted to provide a spiritual experience for the children of our community.

✂

Junior Congregation				
Member Name _____ 				
Child's Name (children or grandchildren)	RH Day 1	RH Day 2	YK	Child's Age



*From Our Family To Yours
We Wish You
L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu*



Phyllis Alperstein
Julie, Steve and Jordan Aronowitz
Marilyn and Burton Aronson
Eileen Perman Baker
Ellen and Jeff Baskin
Phyllis and Jeff Bass
Madeline Belonsky
Neil and Carolyn Berman and Family
The Blatt Family
Dan and Phyllis Budne
Betsy Budne-Finnel
Carol Burstein
Ellen, Gordon, Susie, Lindsay and Diana Charlop
Ann Chernys
Bernie, Jerri, Adam, Jeff, Rachel and Elliot Cohen
Marcia and Ron Cooper
Alyce Drabkin
Mickey and Charles Feldberg
Jeffrey and Cheryl Feiner
Jeffrey, Orna, Michael and Melanie Feinsilver
Barbara Flamm and Family
Elaine Fleischman and Family
Esther and Don Forman and Family
Eileen and Bernie Gellman
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Glaser and Family
Ronnie and David Goldstein
Marjorie Goldstein, Melissa and Cornell Daia,
Hillary and Alex Dimin and David Goldstein
Elyse, Ted, David and Scott Goodman
Irene, Fred, Jeffrey and Rachel Gordon
Velma and Neville Grusd
Ken Guttenplan
The Heidecker Family
Stephen and Esta Heitner, Beth and Jenn
Ruth Heyman and Family
Debby, Ray and Alyssa Hockstein
Ann and Mark Hoffer and Family
Steven and Stacy Hoffman and Family
The Holz Family
Reva Foier Horowitz and Family
Harriet Joseph
Amy and Ken Kahaner and Family
Susan, Stephen, David, Jessica, Philip, Laura, Riley, Sloane,
Jackson, Charlotte and Ruby Kanfer

The Kaufman/Levine Family
Eva Kessner
Esther and Peter Kind
Jacqueline and Harold Lamkay and Family
Marge and Norman Leblang and Family
Malvina Leder and Family
Diane and Dennis Lidoshore
Vivienne Lipsitz
Marla, Louis, Lance and Cherie Litvin
Gerry Major and Family
Susan, Charles and Anna Mandelbaum
Israela and Eric Metzger
Beatrice Nebel
Karen Popowsky and Jeff Wilson
Cantor Julian and Barbara Raber
Deanne, David and Marcee Raffel
Nadine and Eugene Rattien
Roni, Robert and Melissa Rauch
Nadine and Arthur Rose
Sue and Jeff Rosenfeld
Mindy and Richard Rosenfeld and Family
Rosinsky Family
Joan and Paul Ross and Family
Samuels-Midlin-Gazit Families
Debbie, Adam, Andrew and Rachel Schneider
Helene and Donald Schoenholt
Isabel and Larry Schwartz
Jerry Schwartz
Rhoda Shapiro and Warren Shapiro
Sonnie and Desiree Shar and Family
Cantor Josh, Mairov, Simcha, Ellie,
Sela, AJ and Tobey Shron
Marion Silton
Dawn, Scott, Rebecca and Brianna Singer
Eileen Singer
Debbie, Richard, Josh and Erica Sosman
Esther and Saul Spindel
Irina, Morgan and Erica Starr
Diane and Mitchell Stein
Gloria and Phill Steinberg
Lesley and Bob Stern
Debbie and Robert Stoll



*From Our Family
To Yours
We Wish You
L'Shanah Tovah Tikaleivu*

- June and Alan Sykoff and Family
- Mona and Stephen Toback
- Martin and Susan Tobias
- Janet and Irwin Tobin and Family
- The Tomasik Family
- Gail and Chuck Wayne
- Corinne and Mark Weisberg
- Lillian Weiss
- The Wirthheim Family
- Nina and Irwin Wolf
- Rabbi Gordon, Carrie, Robert and Neal Yaffe
- Wendy Yasgur and Ron Ullmann
- Lenore Zakow
- Mina and Morris Zimmerman and Family

The Shofar

What's that Noise All About?



Here are some things to think about when fulfilling the mitzvah of hearing the shofar this year:

- Turn toward doing good and creating peace and harmony where there is unrest and discord.
This is why the shofar must be curved and not straight.
- Rejoice in the creation of the world and God's sovereignty within it.
The sound of the shofar is like the sound of the coronation of a king.
- Remember that God cares enough for us that he revealed himself to us at Mount Sinai.
The revelation at Sinai occurred amidst the sound of the shofar.
- Never lose hope in the coming of the ultimate redemption and the ingathering of our exiles.
The shofar will sound with the coming of the Messiah.
- There is no ideal or value that takes precedence over the sanctity or preciousness of human life.
The shofar is a reminder of the horn of the ram provided by God to be sacrificed by Abraham instead of his son, Isaac.



Operation Isaiah



Each year, our congregation participates with congregations throughout the country in a program called Operation Isaiah. This program is in response to the words of the Prophet Isaiah that is part of the Haftarah on Yom Kippur.

***Is this the fast I desire,
A day for men to starve their bodies?
No, this is the fast I desire:
To unlock the fetters of wickedness and
Untie the cords of the yoke to let the
Oppressed go free;
It is to share your bread with the hungry,
and to take the wretched into your home...
(When) you offer your compassion to the
Hungry and satisfy the hungry creature...
Then shall your light shine
In the darkness,
And your gloom shall be like noonday.***

Bring more meaning to your fast this year by giving food that you might have eaten on Yom Kippur to someone who has little or no food to eat. As Yom Kippur approaches, let our ears and hearts be open to hearing and acting upon the sacred words of our prophets.

Bring your grocery bag filled with non-perishable food and other items as suggested below to the synagogue during the week between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We will deliver the collected food to the Five Towns Kosher Food Pantry after the holiday.



Suggested Items for Operation Isaiah

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Tuna | Kid Friendly Cereal |
| Salmon | Rice |
| Sauce | Peanut Butter |
| Pasta | Jelly |
| Juice | Canned Fruit |
| Juice Boxes | Condiments |
| Kid Friendly Snacks | Paper Towels |
| Soups | Toiletries |

Shireinu Choir of Long Island Auditions

Thursday, September 6 7:30 p.m.

Multipurpose Room at Temple Israel of Great Neck
108 Old Mill Rd.



For further information email
info@shireinuchoirli.org



I Am To My Beloved As My Beloved Is To Me

By Ellen Charlop

This well known phrase expresses one of the most powerful emotions - Love. It is used during weddings or engraved on a wedding band. It originates from Song of Songs, one of the most beautiful love songs written in the Torah and authored by King Solomon. It describes the courtship, love, and strong desire between two lovers, but is also used to describe the relationship between G-d and His people. In Hebrew, this phrase is: Ani L'Dodi V'Dodi Li. Elul, the name for the current Hebrew month on the lunar calendar that precedes the high holidays, is an acronym formed from the first letter of each of the words of this phrase. During the month of Elul, we are meant to enter into this reciprocal love relationship with G-d.

Elul is the last month of the year, but is tied to the future with a strand of repentance and renewal. Each year does not stand alone; it is connected to the year ahead and the year before. The past touches the present which grips the future, showing that the calendar is not linear, but rather a continuous spiral of events. It's lesson is that the missteps of the past do not have to stain the future. The month of Elul is a time of introspection. We reflect on the year that has passed and the new year to come. We try to prepare ourselves spiritually and physically, taking into account flaws and misdeeds, and figuring out ways to correct them, and connect ourselves to a higher level of being. How can we love more, give more, and be more understanding? It's a time when we don't judge anyone but ourselves. It's a time of forgiveness. When have you lived up to your hopes and dreams and when have you missed the mark? Maybe there's a relationship that requires mending. Ask yourself, what's the work ahead of me that will allow me to be my best?

It is believed that during the month of Elul, "the King is in the Field". Not only is G-d totally available during this month, but the Divine spark that dwells in each and every one of us, is more accessible. Everyone basically wants two things. One is to feel connected to something, whether it be friends, family, community or a higher spirituality. The other is to make an impact, to make a difference, to live a life of meaning and purpose. To be the best version of ourselves. Being mindful of this is how we can enter the high holidays as our most elevated selves. G-d wants a connection with us. It's like Ultimate Facebook. He wants us to friend Him. During this special time we can ask for whatever we want, even the impossible. We don't have to dress differently, or do anything special. He's always there, but at this time he is closest, totally available, attentive to our needs, and listening. It's like when the sun is shining, but you open the blinds and light fills the room. All year G-d says listen to me. Now is our opportunity to say hear me, here are my thoughts and prayers and wishes. G-d's ear is open. And He is always willing to forgive.

Ring in the Rosh

Judaism is a culture of preparation. Each holiday has a built in prep time because it appreciates the importance of process. Things don't always happen over night. It takes time. Just as we prepare for Passover, and we prepare for Shavuot during the period of the Omer, we prepare for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur during the month of ELUL. Just as there are 7 weeks between Passover and Shavuot, there are 7 weeks between Tisha B'Av and Rosh HaShanah. Everything is connected like a long beautiful strand of pearls.

During the month of Elul we recite Psalm 27 each day and hear the shofar each day, except on Shabbat. The sound of the Shofar is an ancient call reminding us to wake-up! Are you ready? The world was created for you. Seize the opportunity, show up, be present, make a difference. You count. You have a purpose. You matter and what you do or don't do matters! The calls of the Shofar are Tekiyah - Shevarim- Teruah - Tekiyah Gedolah. They can be interpreted as follows: I see my work, I see my struggle, I see my growth, I see my return. Judaism gives us so many opportunities to start again, to connect and to re-connect. It's a culture of second chances. Every week we have Shabbat, every month we celebrate the new moon, and every year we have Rosh HaShanah, an opportunity to press reset, to be our very best. On Rosh Hashanah we set the tone for the rest of the year.

Wishing you and your family Shana Tovah U'Metukah - may it be a good sweet year!

ADULT HEBREW SCHOOL

Leading to an Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Celebration

Interactive and fun!

Students of all levels of learning and
knowledge are welcome.

Taught by:

Rabbi Gordon Yaffe

Hebrew Reading
Prayers

Torah & Prophets
Holidays & Customs
Israel and more!

BAR/BAT MITZVAH LESSONS*

**ceremony included with 2-year commitment*

Monday evenings 7 pm – 8:30 pm
Beginning October 8

Synagogue membership not required

\$720 per student per year

Weekly sessions October through June

\$360 for Synagogue Members

Additional fee for books

Audio-Visual materials included in fee

For more information or to register, please
contact Rabbi Yaffe at 718-224-0404 ext. 4

Jewish Unity – An Old Idea For A New Year

By Paul M. Sacker

The High Holidays are upon us and Jews around the world will once again gather in numbers. Families will come together for Rosh Hashanah dinner, communities will join at *shul* for services, and in general, Jews will unite to atone for humanity's shortcoming. It's been the same for over 3,000 years and, G-d willing, shows no signs of ending.

In the last issue of Temple Talk, I presented the idea that Jewish unity has been the amazing element that has ensured our survival against all odds and provided us a tool to fight any foe. As stated in that issue, my research into Jewish unity lead me to two amazing books which I will now summarize.

The first book is *Like a Bundle of Reeds* by Dr. Michael Laitman. Dr. Laitman, a social scientist who is also the head of one of the largest Kabbalah schools in the world, provides an in-depth history of the rise of our ancestors. He demonstrates that starting with their Hebrew roots under Abraham through their rise as a nation under Moses and continuing beyond the Jewish remnant's periods of exile, our people have managed to hang onto our cultural identity despite periods of adversity and even physical separation. Dr. Laitman discusses how the ancient approach to remain unified was developed by the Patriarchs and codified in the Torah. He calls this approach "*arvut*" (mutual guarantee). This was a mindset where every citizen looked out for each other, truly loving their neighbors as themselves, generating a collective responsibility which ensured our survival against all odds. The author, however, goes on to demonstrate that when Jewish unification was temporarily forgotten or general apathy drove it away...the tides of anti-Jewish behavior rose greater and greater from the neighboring nations. The reasoning he gives is that *arvut* is not just meant for the Jews, but is meant for all humanity and that Jews are supposed serve as the role model for others to follow (i.e. be a "light unto the nations"). The other nations sense this and demand, albeit subconsciously, that we fulfill our mission. *Arvut*, Dr. Laitman concludes, needs to be regained by modern Jews both within and outside of the State of Israel and taught to the rest of humanity. This he declares is the only way that we can end anti-Jewish behavior and more importantly usher in the Messianic Age.

The second book, and one that I highly recommend to those with younger family members, is *Destiny* by Ken Spiro. The book's theme equates our survival against incredible odds to the underdog protagonist of an epic film franchise such as *Star Wars* or *Harry Potter*. That is, the unsure, seemingly unassuming hero, who, upon accepting his or her destiny, has no choice but to overcome the forces of darkness and eventually usher in a period of peace and harmony for all. The book even makes use of a series of comic-like story boards that present his overall theme in a cinematic form; a delight for any reader. Spiro, as Dr. Laitman above, covers the growth of the Jews from their Abrahamic roots through the modern age and presents the very optimistic view that the Jews, despite never making up more than one half of one percent of the world's population, have managed to be at the forefront of civilization's greatest advances; bringing to the world codes of ethics, law and social responsibility and amazing technological advances. He postulates that this is no accident, but rather represents an almost supernatural endurance that can only be justified as the Jews having a unique "destiny." Spiro reaches a similar conclusion as Dr. Laitman, that it is the Jews' representation of global unity that has both ensured our survival but has also been the driving cause of anti-Jewish attacks. The slight difference is that he suggests it is examples of our togetherness, not disunity, that drives the tyrants of history to plot our destruction. They do all they can to weaken our ties until, once those ties finally break, they are free to strike in full force. This is because our unified existence stands as an eternal reminder that the tyrant's goal to dominate defies G-d and humanity's spiritual roots.

The conclusion of these books strikes home deeply. Jewish unity is a must for our survival and unless we focus on this **daily**, not just those rare moments such as the High Holidays, the mere 15 million or so Jews in the world remain at risk for some very trying times ahead. So, as we pray this month for a better year for the world and ourselves, let's keep in mind that all Jews: *Haredi* and Secular; Liberal and Conservative; Orthodox and Reform; Man and Woman; are connected by the same heritage, the same struggles, and the same enemies. Therefore, let's include a prayer that haShem gives us the wisdom to once and for all put aside our differences and unify us in *arvut* as in ancient times. After all, the other nations may very well be depending on us to light the way!

L'shanah Tovah!

We Are Collecting Used Eye Glasses & Cell Phones



An Opportunity To Give To Those Who Are In Need

(Receptacles are in the synagogue lobby)

Sukkah Decorating

Sunday, September 23 at 10:00 a.m

Bring your energy, creativity and enthusiasm as we decorate the sukkah.

An opportunity for all ages!



Our friends and neighbors with developmental challenges from the Samuel Field Y Community have been invited and will be joining us.

The morning will begin with a light breakfast, followed by the creation of original decorations and placing them in the Sukkah. Rabbi Yaffe will conduct a brief lesson on the Lulav & Etrog and everyone will have the opportunity to make his or her own Lulav Shake!

Please Call the Synagogue office at 718-224-0404 To let us know that you will be joining us.

Make Your Reservation Today! Sukkot Dinner

Sunday, September 23 at 6:30 P.M.
(Following services that begin at 6:00 P.M.)



Join together with your Synagogue Family as we begin the festival of Sukkot with a brief service, a delicious Yuntiff meal and lots of singing & schmoozing!

Send this form, with your payment, to the Synagogue office by Monday, September 17, to reserve your seat.

Name _____

Phone/Email _____

__Adults@\$30 __Children 5-12 @\$15 __Children under 5 (no cost)

Reservations, Paid in advance, are required.
Questions—Contact our office at 718.224.0404

Rabbi Gordon & Carrie Yaffe Invite you to their Open Sukkah

Saturday, September 29, 2018
8:00 p.m. — 11:00 p.m.



RSVP Carrie Yaffe at:
carrieyaffe@gmail.com
732-859-0863



Schedule of Sukkot Services

Sun., Sept. 23	Erev Sukkot Maariv	6:00 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 24	Sukkot Day 1: Shacharit Mincha/Maariv	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.
Tues., Sept. 25	Sukkot Day 2: Shacharit	9:30 a.m.
Sun., Sept. 30	Erev Shemini Atzeret Maariv Yizkor	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Mon., Oct. 1	Shemini Atzeret Shacharit Yizkor Erev Simchat Torah	9:30 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m.
Tues., Oct. 2	Simchat Torah	9:30 a.m.

Make Your Own Lulav Shake!



Place your order
in the synagogue office by Monday, September 17

Send your check in today for \$36.00
and make payable to: Congregation L'Dor V'Dor

Make Your Lulav Shake

Name _____

Telephone/Email _____

Check Enclosed for \$ _____

Pick Your Own Lulav! A Trip To Main Street In Flushing Saturday, September 22



Meet at the synagogue for Havdalah at 7pm
and then travel to Main Street for a Pre-Sukkot
experience together with Rabbi Yaffe



Men's Club & Sisterhood Barbecue & Borsht Belt Summers Brought To Life



With Marty Schneit

Thursday September 27

Barbecue at 7:00 pm



Simon Says in the Ballroom at 8:00 pm

What survives of The Borscht Belt is the memory— Join us as this memory comes alive!

In an illustrated lecture Marty will bring back to life a remarkable time, place, and people. Do you remember: Old Route 17, Red Apple Rest, Bungalow Colonies, Grossingers, The Concord, and Kutcher's?

Just about all comedians back then got their start in the Catskills. Marty will share the comedy of Red Buttons, George Burns, Rodney Dangerfield, Sid Caesar, Henny Youngman, and Milton Berle.



No charge for members.

Non-members are \$10.00 per person.

R.S.V.P by September 20 with the office at 718-224-0404.



Men's Club & Sisterhood BBQ & A Chance To Relive Summers in the Catskills
Thursday, September 27 at 7:00 pm

Name _____

Tel/Email _____ Enclosed Check for \$ _____



Our Celebration of Simchat Torah Begins with a Pizza Party at 5:30 pm Followed by services at 7pm Monday, October 1

Join us for an evening of singing, dancing and rejoicing in God's gift of the Torah to the Jewish People.

We will read from the end of Deuteronomy and the beginning of Genesis. Everyone will be called to the bimah for an aliyah.

There will be apples and chocolate bars for everyone! We're making sundaes too!

Simchat Torah Pizza Party RSVP

Name: _____ Adults @\$10 _____ Children @\$5

Our Celebration of Simchat Torah Continues... Tuesday, October 2 At 9:30 a.m.



Join us as we gather together for the grand finale to the Fall Holiday Season.

After services, we will have a sit down luncheon.

Questions: Contact the office at 718-224-0404

Honoring the Past, Keeping Memories Alive

By George Klein

"Without memory, there is no culture. Without memory, there would be no civilization, no society, no future." Elie Wiesel

This summer, my wife and I went on our "roots trip". We visited the small town of Kisvarda in Hungary where I was born, as well as the small town of Bardejov, in the Slovak Republic, where my wife's mother was born. As it happens, the two towns are only about a 3 hour drive apart. To get there, we started out in Prague. While in Prague we engaged a lovely Czech guide to take us on a tour of the Jewish Quarter. Our guide, who was Jewish, also recommended that we visit Terezin, where her father had been sent. Terezin was a collection camp as opposed to Sobibor or Auschwitz which were death camps. The camp was of course sanitized for visitors. The bunks were relatively clean and the grounds were well kept. Even the prison areas were not as terrifying as they surely were during the war. It was not until we walked through the museum area that the reality of the camp struck us. There were drawings, letters, scripts and costumes from plays, and scores from sheet music that had been left by victims of the Holocaust who had passed through Terezin. There were numerous famous artists, writers, composers and musicians that had spent time in Terezin before being sent on to a death camp.

It is written in the Mishnah that: "Whoever destroys a single life is considered by Scripture to have destroyed the whole world, and whoever saves a single life is considered by Scripture to have saved the whole world."

As we wandered through the Terezin museum looking at all those sheets of music and essays and plays, I could not help but think of how many worlds were destroyed and how many works of art were never created. My wife on the other hand was inspired by this part of the museum. Her reaction was that the spirit of these people could not be held down and that even in such dire circumstances facing certain death, they created art and beauty and tried to make the world around them better.

This experience helped me realize that it is a painful task to face such hatred and suffering, whether you have a direct connection to the Holocaust or not. But it is our obligation to overcome the pain and hatred, and to remember the victims of the Holocaust as individuals. How else can we stand up to evil if we are not prepared to recognize its victims and honor their lives.



A High Note Of Spiritual Resistance In Commemoration Of Kristallnacht

Music of the Holocaust: Songs of Hope, Fortitude and Spiritual Resistance

Sunday, November 4th @ 1:00 pm

Join us for a special musical program featuring our community youth choir that will sing music composed by Jews imprisoned in Holocaust ghettos and concentration camps.

Dr. Tamara Reps Freeman, a Holocaust ethnomusicologist, will direct the students, tell the stories of the composers and play their inspiring music on her 1935 Joseph Bausch viola, which was rescued from the Shoah.



**This meaningful and unique event will help fulfill our promise to
NEVER FORGET!**

This program, sponsored by Congregation L'Dor V'Dor, Marathon Jewish Center and Temple Torah is free and open to the community.

Israel On Our Minds

Returning to Israel for New Experiences

By Cheryl Feiner

Visiting Israel for the 4th time, we decided to venture out on our own, without joining an organized tour. I planned a full itinerary and persuaded our son who lives in Singapore to join us for 4 days. We decided to spend the bulk of our time in 3 main cities: Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Eilat. We met wonderful people, who made us feel like family, and experienced many acts of kindness. We connected with our history and were once again struck by the sheer beauty and innovative brilliance that could turn a desert into a land ablaze with color.

In Tel Aviv, we strolled the scenic promenade along the Mediterranean, to Old Yaffa; attended a concert by Eliad, a local pop star; and heard Israel's Bob Dylan, Dani Litani, perform in a local café. At the innovative Palmach Museum, a must-see for anyone visiting Israel, we were immersed in the lives of 7 new recruits to this elite group of soldiers. At the Ayalon Institute, we heard about the remarkable heroism that enabled the secret production of bullets used in Israel's War of Independence. Upon our arrival, we were graciously given a private English-speaking tour, arranged on the spot, despite our not having an advance reservation. When we learned that the word "giraffe" was used to signal the presence of an outsider, unaware of the clandestine activities, I mentioned that the giraffe happens to be the symbol of my hometown, Great Neck. The tour guide's face lit up with a big smile as she told us that she, a Mexican-born Jew who made Aliyah to Israel, had lived in Great Neck for 27 years. This truly is a small world!

We rented a car and drove north to Haifa, where we toured the beautiful terraced Baha'i Gardens on Mount Carmel and visited charming Zichron Yaakov, lined with arts and crafts shops. Our family trips always include a taste of the great outdoors, so we explored a small nature reserve with archeological ruins, called Nahal Timinim. On a scenic 45 minute trail, with river and lake views, we passed a Roman aqueduct, canal and dam that used to carry water to Caesarea as well as Byzantine-era flour and water mills.

We drove to Jerusalem and the beauty of this modern and ancient city was as thrilling to see as ever. Flowers lined the roads, and the purple flowering Jacaranda trees were in full bloom. Our first view of Old Jerusalem was in the evening as the sun grazed the walls of the ancient city. On a walking tour of the old city, we explored the diverse architecture and cultures of its many inhabitants. Another highlight was spending erev Shabbat at the Western Wall and sharing a Shabbat meal with a wonderful host family. After feeling the spiritual connection at the Wall and watching throngs of young people joyously dancing the hora, we asked about the status of the coed section, and were surprised to learn that it already exists. Our hosts escorted us there and we found maybe 20 to 30 other men and women enjoying the opportunity to be at the Western Wall side by side.

We visited the ancient City of David which had exceptionally beautiful views at sunset. From there we saw a light show displayed on the walls of Old Jerusalem, which was quite an experience. Only 2 English translation headsets were given out for this performance, as my husband and I were the only non-Israeli attendees. Besides us, the audience was entirely comprised of ~350 high school seniors and their chaperones on a day trip from Haifa. When they overheard us speaking English, those seated near us engaged us in conversation to practice their English. Upon learning we were from NY, we were asked if we know their Uncle Moshe in Queens or Cousin Shirley in New Jersey. The kids were so vibrant and friendly.

Always eager for knowledge and adventure, we took an exhilarating and very informative jeep tour over the roads to Jerusalem used by the Maccabees, Romans and Ottomans. We also drove along the Burma Road, a makeshift road created during the War of Independence, which enabled Israeli soldiers to deliver convoys of desperately needed supplies to Jerusalem, by bypassing the area under the Latrun fort which was being fired upon by Jordanian troops. We gained a lot from this fascinating and very bumpy jeep experience, including the confidence that having survived this journey without injury, we would be physically able to handle an African safari someday.

Our last stop was the resort town of Eilat, where we visited a wonderful Underwater Observatory and snorkeled on a beach frequented by locals. At the Observatory, we saw an IMAX movie. I mistakenly believed it would have English sub-titles and only realized that there were English headsets as we were leaving. We told the attendant what happened and she simply said, "No problem, go to the front of the entrance line and tell them Yael sent you". So we watched it again and this time understood every word.

Israel is a special place that I hope to return to again and again. Our 4th trip to Israel was as amazing as each one before it. There are always new experiences to be shared, new things to learn, new museums to see and new archeological sites to connect us to the past. Don't hesitate to plan your trip to the land of milk and honey.



My Summer in Israel

By Nathan Tamari

I was very lucky to have had the opportunity to visit Israel during the year of my bar mitzvah. Although I have been to Israel a few times already, this trip was special. After touring the country with my family for 10 days and visiting with our Israeli family, I was invited to remain an additional two weeks with my cousins who are my age. I attended a day camp with them during my stay. Even though I am not fluent in Hebrew, the kids and counselors all spoke English, and helped me improve my Hebrew. I found that everyone was extremely welcoming and friendly. One of the highlights of my trip was visiting the Old City of Jerusalem, and going through the water Tunnel of Gihon in the City of David. I was also able to perform the mitzvah of putting on tefillin at the Kotel. It was an unforgettable trip, and I did not want to leave.

My First Tour of Israel

By Lisa Pollack

In June, I had the extraordinary opportunity of touring Israel with a wonderful group of friends and colleagues, including synagogue members, Joan Kase and Henry Riger and Janet and Irwin Tobin, the Co-Presidents of American Friends of Neve Hanna, the remarkable children's organization I've been working with for two years. The tour and highlights included Neve Hanna Children's Home in Kiryat Gat, B'nai Mitzvah of the Neve Hanna children at the Kotel, Rosh Pina, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Tzfat, City of David, Davidson's Archaeological Park, Hurva Synagogue, Palmach Museum, Ben Gurion's Home, The Ayalon Bullet Factory, Caesarea, Museum of 1st Aliyah in Zichron Yaacov, Masada and the Dead Sea, Ahava factory, Qumran caves, Be'er Sheeva and much more. In addition to my first tour of Israel, I had the wonderful opportunity of spending a week volunteering at Neve Hanna Children's Home, which was most fulfilling and rewarding. I gained such insight and experience by working and spending time with the staff and children. Working for American Friends of Neve Hanna has been my passion and personal Tikkun Olam. Volunteering at Neve Hanna Children's Home has helped me to truly understand how vitally important and beneficial Neve Hanna is to the well-being and future of its children.

The entire tour and my personal experience throughout Israel was a heartfelt journey. Stepping off the plane at Ben Gurion airport, I immediately felt the sense of being home. For me personally, being Jewish, is not just a matter of religion, but of belonging to a people. I have had a lifetime of learning the history of my people, Jewish customs and rituals, reading the stories in the Torah and exploring what it means to be Jewish and what is our connection to Israel. For me, being in Israel put this lifetime of learning into context and I was in complete awe. What an emotional feeling. Yes, I literally had a whirlwind love affair with Israel. I fell in love with this most beautiful country with all its history, culture, energy, character, emotion, color and charm—and most of all, its heart and soul. For a brief moment, I thought without a doubt, I could picture myself living here one day.

Walking and exploring the streets of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, I felt the good energy and positive vibes, and got a taste of life in Israel. People are genuinely happy. What a feeling of love, togetherness, peace (of mind), hope and pride. Observing and experiencing my first Shabbos in Tel Aviv, was quite a warm and spiritual feeling. What tugged at my heart was how Shabbos ended—with Israeli folk dancing down at the beach—I never experienced anything like this in my life. I came upon at least 80+ people all joined together, smiling, celebrating, singing and dancing. There was a magic and movement in the air beyond compare. In Jerusalem, I was in awe of all the history and archeological sites. Arriving at the Wailing Wall, I felt this rush and wide range of emotion. Yes, when I approached and touched the Wall, my eyes teared up. Stepping back and sitting down on the ground, holding my hands to my heart, I literally felt this powerful pull and energy that held me there—I didn't want to leave. Walking throughout Masada, this remarkable vast ancient desert fortress overlooking the Dead Sea, was a phenomenal experience beyond words. Attending the B'nai Mitzvah of the Neve Hanna children at the Egalitarian section of the Kotel; Robinson's Arch, I was deeply moved spiritually and emotionally throughout the ceremony and thought—wow this is exactly what a celebration of becoming B'nai Mitzvah should be. Watching each child being called up to the Torah was touching. I had a feeling of love, hope and pride for each of these children who come from such disadvantaged backgrounds.

Exploring and experiencing much of Israel was pure joy and bliss. Strolling through the streets of the Old City, walking along the cobblestone grounds of Ben Yehuda Street, swimming in the Mediterranean, the beauty and simplicity of taking in every magnificent sunrise and sunset, eating some of the best falafel, tomatoes, and olives—yes, I love olives and was eating them like candy morning, noon and night. Again, I thought to myself, I could definitely live here one day. When my time ended in Israel and I was back at Ben Gurion airport, it was quite emotional. There was a tug at my heart as I was boarding that plane, making the long trip back home, especially after finding a home and a place for myself in Israel. I feel blessed and thankful for being given such a beautiful gift and opportunity. I now get it—I understand—and hope to return some day. Ever since I returned to New York, I cannot stop thinking about my time spent in Israel—I smile to myself and think if I was there right now, what I would be doing. Thank you dearly Janet and Irwin and American Friends of Neve Hanna for such an extraordinary experience. I love Israel—it is home. A piece of my soul has remained behind and a part of Israel will remain forever within my heart.

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THE GIFT
OF *life*

**BLOOD
DRIVE**

**Sunday, September 16
10:00am to 4:00pm**



SAMUEL FIELD Y
"The Everybody Place"

**Samuel Field Y
58-20 Little Neck Pkwy
Little Neck, NY
Tel Aviv Room**

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Samuel Schachter
718-268-5011**

We Are Very Proud Of Our Members Who Played Soccer For Team USA In The Maccabi Youth Games In Israel This Summer

Yasher Koach To:

**Samantha Bressler, Daughter of Michele and Alan Bressler
&
Victoria Varkonyi, Daughter of Olga and Robert Varkonyi**

Local Athletes Play In Maccabi Youth Games

By Sara Gottlieb - Originally published in the Great Neck Record on August 7, 2018



Worldwide athletic competitions are typically held every four years. While the most well-known are the Olympic Games and the FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) World Cup, the World Maccabi Games, sometimes known as the “Maccabiah” or the “Jewish Olympics,” is the third-largest sporting event in the world, with more than 10,000 participating athletes.

The event is held every four years in Israel, and Jewish athletes from all over the world journey to compete in the games alongside Israeli athletes of all religions. The Maccabi USA (MUSA) organization hosts both youth and adult competitions; the 20th Maccabiah was held for adult competitors last summer. This year, the organization hosted the Maccabi Youth Games, open

for athletes born in 2002, 2003 and 2004, and Great Neck will be represented in the Holy Land thanks to local 15-year-old athletes Samantha Bressler (soccer), Noa Fisher (basketball) and Victoria Varkonyi (soccer).

The competition was held in Israel from July 23 to Aug. 1. Bressler, Fisher and Varkonyi are among 35 participants chosen to play for Team USA. Other countries represented include Argentina, France, Great Britain, Canada, Holland, Hungary, Israel, Spain, Italy and South Africa. The six days of competition was to be followed by three days of travel around Jerusalem, so that the young athletes can explore their faith and heritage.

“I’ve been playing soccer since I was 5 years old,” said Bressler, as she was preparing for the games. “[The competition is] going to be a really amazing experience. It’ll be awesome to play the sport I love, and representing Great Neck [in Israel] is even better.”

Victoria Varkonyi has been playing soccer for more than a decade.

Victoria Varkonyi was looking forward to playing soccer with other Jewish kids who enjoy the sport as much as she does.

“It’s so cool to come together with other Jewish kids who enjoy the same sports as I do,” said Varkonyi, of the Maccabiah.

Noa Fisher will be playing basketball in the games, following her father, Andrew, who participated in the 2017 Maccabi Games on the USA Cycling team.

While Bressler and Varkonyi are the first in their families to compete in the games, Fisher is not. Her father, Andrew, participated in the 2017 Maccabi Games on the USA Cycling team, and this led to his daughter’s involvement in the Youth Games. According to the cyclist, his daughter also plays for an Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball team, the Long Island Lightning.

MUSA takes a great deal of pride in this long-running tradition of competition. The first Maccabiah was held in 1932, and has been held every four years since 1953. Jewish athletes from around the world are given the opportunity to represent their countries and their faith as they compete. They are also invited to explore their historical and religious roots in Israel. One of the goals of the event is to bring Jews from all cultural backgrounds together, and remind them that they are all bound by their shared Jewish faith.

In the past, Great Neck has been proudly represented in various international athletic competitions, and it is wonderful that this tradition is being carried on by these three talented young athletes. We wish them and their fellow youth competitors the best of luck, and we will follow up on their success once they return home.



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Special acknowledgement to my dear friends, Julie and Steve Aronowitz, who arranged a minyan for my mother, Marion Schwartz Luvisch
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Mission of the Pull-Tab Program Ronald McDonald House of Long Island



Synagogue members Nadine and Gene Rattien have been involved in this fundraising effort with Ronald McDonald House for several years. We encourage the synagogue community to get involved in this opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of so many families. Please bring your pull-tabs from your beverage and food cans into the synagogue office for collection. **You will find an orange receptacle in the lobby for your pull-tabs.**

What is a Pull-Tab? A pull-tab is the piece of metal that opens aluminum cans. Like the can, the pull tab is able to be recycled. It is a small piece, yet a valuable piece.

Why Collect Pull-Tabs? Collecting pull-tabs is an easy way to recycle and is a task that people of all ages can do. The money raised from the scrap metal, determined by the weight of the tabs and the current price per pound, is used for the direct operations of the Ronald McDonald House. This helps the seriously ill children and their families who stay there as a home-away from home during necessary medical treatments. Saving the tab is a simple and clean way of recycling and helping an important cause.

From Ronald McDonald House

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your collection of aluminum tabs in support of the Ronald McDonald House of Long Island. While an aluminum tab may seem like a little thing, lots of aluminum tabs really do add up and are a welcome part of donations that keep the House running throughout the year.

Through your support, you are playing a big part in helping to provide relief to families in the midst of their child's medical crisis. As the House continues to grow, we take pride in underscoring the special role that you play in helping us sustain and improve our programs, to take them to a new level of excellence. Your giving provides a strong foundation for our organization and our overall success. As we refine our vision for the future, one goal remains simple-to provide all that we can for our families in the most meaningful ways during difficult and stressful time in their lives. We do not do this alone and remain grateful for special friends like you.

We greatly appreciate your investing in our mission of keeping families close, helping to turn our House into a Home each day. On behalf of our residents and their children, who benefit most from your support, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Thank You!

We wish to thank all the participants to the easy to pull off the tabs. As you can read the tabs mean a lot to those who are living through the nightmare of a child's cancer. Please continue the good work. We hope others will participate.

Thank you,
Nadine and Gene Rattien

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To the Proud Grandparents
Amy and Ken Kahaner
On the birth of their Grandson
Leonard Kaleb Hoffman
And to the Parents
Arielle and Ryan Hoffman

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Marjorie and Norman Leblang
On the Engagement
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Jay Leblang
to **Steph Kantor**

Mazel Tov !

Janet and Irwin Tobin
On the Marriage
of their grandson,
Joshua Tobin-Hess
to **Dana Rhodes**

September 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Shabbat Morning Service 9:00 am Havdalah 8:00 pm Casablanca 8:15 pm Selichot Services 10:30 pm Late Night Snack 11:30 pm
2 Morning Minyan & Breakfast 8:45 am	3 Labor Day Office Is Closed	4	5 Torah and Our Lives With Rabbi Yaffe 11:00 am Revi'i Yisraeli 7:30 pm Conversational Hebrew With Cantor Shron 8:30 pm	6	7 Shabbat Eve Service 8pm Installation of Officers Candle Lighting 7:00 pm	8 Shabbat Morning Service 9:00 am High Holiday Workshop with Rabbi Yaffe and Cantor Shron 12:30 pm
9 Morning Minyan & Breakfast 8:45 am Erev Rosh Hashanah Maariv 6:15 pm	10 Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Shacharit 8:30 am Tashlich 5:00 pm Mincha/Maariv 6:15 pm	11 Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Shacharit 8:30 am	12 Fast of Gedaliah Torah and Our Lives With Rabbi Yaffe 11:00 am Revi'i Yisraeli 7:30 pm Conversational Hebrew With Cantor Shron 8:30 pm	13	14 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:30 pm Candle Lighting 6:48 pm	15 Shabbat Morning Service 9:00 am Kabbalah Circle 12:30 pm
16 Morning Minyan & Breakfast 8:45 am Blood Drive at Samuel Field Y 10 am to 4 pm	17	18 Erev Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Mincha 6:15 pm Kol Nidre 6:30 pm	19 Yom Kippur Shacharit 8:30 am Yizkor 1:30 pm Ask the Rabbi 4:00 pm Mincha 5:00 pm Neilah 6:30 pm Final Shofar 7:40 pm	20	21 Shabbat Evening Service 8:00 pm Birthdays and Anniversaries Are Celebrated Candle Lighting 6:36 pm	22 Shabbat Morning Experience 9:00 am Breakfast 10:00 am Shacharit 10:30 am Torah Service 11:15 am Musaph Service 12:00 pm Kiddush/Lunch Havdalah 7:00 pm Trip to Main Street for Lulavim & Etrogim
23 Morning Minyan & Breakfast 8:45 am Sukkah Decorating 10 am Erev Sukkot Maariv 6 pm Dinner 6:30 pm	24 Sukkot Day 1 Shacharit 9:30 am Mincha/Maariv 6:30 pm	25 Sukkot Day 2 Shacharit 9:30 am	26 Torah and Our Lives With Rabbi Yaffe 11:00 am Parashat Hashavuah 3 pm With Cantor Shron Community Forum at Samuel Field Y 7 pm	27 BBQ 7 pm Men's Club & Sisterhood Program 8 pm	28 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:30 pm Candle Lighting 6:25 pm	29 Shabbat Morning Service 9:00 am
30 Morning Minyan & Breakfast 8:45 am Erev Shemini Atzeret Maariv/Yizkor 7:30 pm	October 1 Shemini Atzeret Shacharit 9:30 am Yizkor 11:45 am Erev Simchat Torah 7 pm	October 2 Simchat Torah Shacharit 9:30 am				